

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

24 March. 1862.

My dear Sir.

The Openers have all  
arrived, and two of them have  
been sent as you desired. The  
third has received my warm  
admiration, and awaits a  
liberal leisure for a ~~thorough~~ exam-  
ination. I regret to say that Mr  
Bahnamo died a few months  
ago. The receipt of the volumes  
was acknowledged by Mrs. Bahnamo,  
& by Mr Fredericksen in the other case.

It takes only a glance to  
perceive that your work is done  
in the style that was to be expected  
of you. How many nice points  
that puzzled me six years  
ago shall I not find cleared

up in your Biography! I had no  
preparation for editing Spenser, -  
it was a mere accident that  
it sunk fell to me. To you is  
familiar with the authorship and  
miles of that age, much must  
have been clear as day which  
was dark to me. In fact I  
have never felt the least pleasure  
in my edition of Spenser - partly  
because it was patched up  
afterwards, & not made over from  
the beginning & ending by me - and  
I do not think it deserves  
any praise except for an attempted  
restoration of the text. I printed  
from Todd's (a reprint of Todd's)  
text, but had revised the copy  
so far as the F. Queen goes, according



the original editions - and I mean for  
some, but not all. The Minor Poems.

I regret to see that in one case at least I  
was careless. That "full intent" was  
too bad.

You will perceive that I have not  
yet had time to look at my present,  
save for a few minutes. I happen  
to be beset by many private  
and some public duties which  
deprive me of all leisure for  
the moment. I am also trying  
to finish up some notes on Chaucer's  
grammar which I shall have  
to pleasure of sending you soon.

I hope your undertaking is not  
so completely finished as you say. It  
would be a burden to undertake  
another work of this magnitude.  
We have now a few that have been

so active for so long a life remain  
quiet? —

Accept my best thanks for  
the kind way in which you  
speak of my my humble  
and, I hope, unpretentious  
labors as a speaker, and  
for your many favors, most  
valuable in themselves, and  
still more valuable as a mark  
of your esteem, and believe me,  
with many wishes for your  
health and a long enjoyment  
of the quiet you have earned by  
so much service to literature.

Ever faithfully yours,

F. J. Child

J. Payne Collins Esq.